

Kentucky Arts Council Board Meeting
September 14, 2007
History Center
Frankfort, KY

Members Present: Todd Lowe, Everett McCorvey, Wilma Brown, Dean Jones, Jo Marshall, Retha Tarter, Greg Shumate, Randall Vaughn, James Voyles

Members Absent: Zev Buffman, Jean Dorton, Kelly Knight, Ed Lane, Phyllis Liebman, Gail Russell, and Ann Schell

Others present: Staff Present: Lori Meadows, Nancy Atcher, John Benjamin, Deborah Catlett, Tamara Coffey, Sandy Etherington, Suzanne Gray, Beau Haddock, Joanna Hay, Vallorie Henderson, Connie Hicks, Shannon Keeton, Ed Lawrence, Sandie Lawrence, Melissa Nesselrode, Rachel Rasnick, Charla Reed, Maraskeshia Smith, Dan Strauss
Commerce Cabinet Staff: Lindy Casebier, Executive Director of Arts and Cultural Heritage

Guests: Christina Gordley, Governor's Office of Policy & Management; Cecelia Wooden, Legislative Agent for Arts Kentucky

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME:

Chairman Lowe welcomed all in attendance. Chairman Lowe announced that fellow board member Kelly Knight has been nominated as an alternate delegate to the 62nd United Nations General Assembly. Also, he recognized Melissa Nesselrode's father, Gary Gayheart, would be inducted into the Master Distiller's Hall of Fame today.

QUORUM:

With 9 of the 16 members in attendance, Chairman Lowe declared a quorum to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Lowe asked the board members to review the board minutes from the June board meeting. He noted that the last meeting was one of the most productive meetings he has attended as a board member, the information provided by the staff was excellent.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Retha Tarter, and seconded by Everett McCorvey. The motion was approved without objection.

COMMERCE CABINET REPORT:

Chairman Lowe welcomed Lindy Casebier. Lindy informed the board that the budget hearing for the Kentucky Arts Council was to be held in September or October but, at the request of the Commerce Cabinet, the review has been postponed to January 2008.

Lindy also reported that Lincoln Bicentennial events are currently being planned, including the Abraham Lincoln inaugural event in Louisville on February 11th, 2008. A special work has been commissioned from Peter Schickele for the Louisville Orchestra, opera singer Angela Brown will perform, Doris Kearns Goodwin will be in attendance, and Bob Edwards will be the Master of Ceremonies.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Review of Abstentions: Members were asked to review the abstention list and note if they had any additions and/or deletions. The following changes to the abstentions were requested by the board: Randall Vaughn added the Lexington Opera Society; Chairman Lowe added Actors Theatre; Everett McCorvey requested that the Lexington Philharmonic be removed.

Grants and Awards:

- Organizational Technical Assistance
- Product Development
- Lincoln Product Development
- Dance on Tour
- Individual Artist Professional Development

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Greg Shumate and seconded by Wilma Brown. The motion was passed without objection.

REVIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

A review of the Monitoring Reports was given by Lori Meadows; she noted that the Monitoring Reports reflect the changes made to the Ends Statements at the March 2007 board meeting.

- 1.0 Global Ends Statement: The Mission of the Kentucky Arts Council is to Create Opportunities for the People of Kentucky to Value, Participate in, and Benefit from the Arts
- 1.1 End: Kentuckians Value the Role of Arts in Society
- 1.2 End: Lifelong Education in the Arts is Encouraged
- 1.3 End: Statewide Delivery of Arts Programs and Services is Provided
- 1.4 End: Artists Live and Work in a Supportive Environment.
- 1.5 End: Public Policy Supports the Arts in Kentucky

Chairman Lowe asked the board to take the opportunity, during the Monitoring Report review period, to offer their opinions about the work being done by Lori and the Kentucky Arts Council staff.

Jo Marshall commented that she continues to be impressed by the work that the Kentucky Arts Council staff and Lori do.

Retha Tarter informed the board that the Kentucky Center for the Arts received the National Award for Accessibility in Minnesota. Due to the hard work of Debbie Pennell and Martha Newman and the Kentucky Arts Council, accessibility needs/issues have been addressed to the arts constituents throughout the state of Kentucky.

Everett noted that he would like to see the board and staff take some of the ideas from the Community Breakfast and incorporate one idea into each board meeting and discuss the possibility of acting on that idea; such as: the possibility of working with local businesses and schools to display works/exhibits throughout the state.

Greg congratulated the Kentucky Arts Council staff on the advocacy/informational efforts directed toward the legislators throughout the year. Due to the diligent work of the staff and board the legislators are very aware of the KAC grant funding and opportunities available to their constituents. Chairman Lowe commented on how much he appreciates how the board has worked towards making the Ends Statements relevant.

Ann appreciated that the Ends Statements are much more informative than in past years.

Dean would like for the board and staff to look at the possibility of working with corporations across the state to sponsor art exhibits/sculptures/events etc.

Chairman Lowe noted that Lori and the Kentucky Arts Council staff have worked very hard to uphold 1.3 of the Ends Statements by keeping the grantees accountable for Final Reports, and emphasizing professionalism and advocacy.

In response to the suggestions by the board to work with local businesses, corporations, and schools to display work/exhibits throughout the state, Lori commented that this was included in the last Long Range Plan and could be enforced in the new Long Range Plan for 2008-2012.

A motion to approve the Review of the Executive Director was made by Jo Marshall, and seconded by Greg Shumate. The motion passed without objection.

UPDATE ON 2009-2010 BUDGET REQUEST:

Chairman Lowe, Everett, Jean, Lindy and Lori, worked together on the budget request which included additional funds for the FEI Games 2010. Lori, Everett and Chairman Lowe have met with the FEI Games Foundation to discuss possible opportunities; the Council sees this as an opportunity for international travelers to experience the arts in Kentucky, not only in Lexington, but across the state.

Lori informed the board that several elements for the proposal were taken into consideration, some of them being: artwork in the airports; performances throughout the state; opportunities for the sale of Kentucky artist products; working with artists to prepare for the large number of purchases and preparing for international shipping regulations. The additional funding proposal is \$3 million; \$1.5 million of this request will help to fund the operating support grantees in order for them to work towards the FEI Games constituent needs. Remaining funds will be used towards other preparations, including two additional staff positions for the Kentucky Arts Council that will work solely on the FEI Games. The KAC hopes to make these positions permanent.

Chairman Lowe and Everett wanted to stress that the FEI Games in Kentucky will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. This is seen as a legacy for Kentucky.

Dean would like for the Arts Council to look at the possibility of working with the 2008 Ryder Cup as a “trial run” for the same type of events we hope to have at the FEI Games.

Chairman Lowe and Lori will send a two-page narrative that was included with the budget request so they may see the actual proposal.

END STATEMENT 1.5: Public Policy Supports the Arts in Kentucky

Chairman Lowe introduced Cecelia Wooden, Legislative Agent for Arts Kentucky who presented a power point discussion on working with legislators.

General discussion followed.

Chairman Lowe asked the board to individually contact legislators for the increase in the budget; the board agreed; Jean will work with the board regarding the tasks that need to be fulfilled.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OPERATIONAL UPDATE:

Lori informed the board that we now have a full staff for the first time in two years. The following staff was introduced:

Tamara Coffey—Individual Artist Director

Chris Cathers—Program Branch Manager; Mr. Cathers will begin the following week

Katie Hamilton—Administrative Specialist; Ms. Hamilton will also begin the following week

Rachel Rasnick—Lincoln Bicentennial Project Coordinator

Joanna Hay—Western Regional Outreach Coordinator

Dan Strauss—Dan has a new title, he is now the Senior Program Analyst

Lori provided information on the following upcoming events:

The Folklife Festival: A new aspect of the Festival this year will be Diversity Training provided to all state employees, which the KAC has worked to implement.

The Performing Arts Exchange: In conjunction with PAE, the Kentucky Arts Council will have a private reception for the Southern Arts Federation and the Kentucky Arts Council board and staff on Wednesday September 26th at the Downtown Marriott. The Kentucky Arts Council will sponsor the Thursday Keynote Luncheon with Ben Cameron. The American Gospel Ensemble will perform at the Keynote Luncheon. The Kentucky Arts Council will also host two showcases of artists from the Performing Arts Directory; Traditionally Kentucky (Thursday evening) and Kentucky on Stage (Friday evening) at the Kentucky International Convention Center.

In October the Kentucky Arts Council will be hosting Community Conversations, eight public input meetings across the state. At some key areas we will offer KASOL training to our operating support grantees at 3:30. The evening meetings will begin at 5:00 with a light reception and entertainment. The discussion will begin at 5:30 and end by 7:30 pm. Chairman Lowe encouraged all of the board members to sign up today to attend a meeting within their area.

On October 17th Kentucky Arts Council/World Equestrian Games Arts Summit, Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington

Traveling Exhibits: The Fellowship and Luthier exhibits will begin traveling across the state.

Included in the board material handout, a list of the Lincoln activities.

The current Kentucky Poet Laureate Jane Gentry Vance was featured on Good Morning America. She was asked to write a poem to celebrate the anchors' first anniversary together.

Please mark your calendars for Legislative Day on February 5th, 2008. A reception will follow again this year at Berry Hill.

The NASAA conference will be in Baltimore this year from December 6-9th. Chairman Lowe asked that the board pay for their own travel and the Kentucky Arts Council pay the registration fees.

Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial activities will take place February 10-14, 2008

Advocacy Days in Washington D.C. will be March 31st and April 1st 2008.

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION:

At Chairman Lowe's request, Everett McCorvey led the board meeting evaluation discussion. The following comments were made:

Jim commented on how well the Community Breakfast went; the attendance and remarks made by the attendees were really satisfying. He also noted that the Kentucky Arts Council is very fortunate to have Todd Lowe as the chair and that the staff did a wonderful job as always.

Wilma commented that all the information provided within today's meeting was very helpful.

Retha appreciated the opportunity to talk to the constituents at the Community Breakfast, and she enjoyed the PowerPoint presentation by Cecelia.

Everett felt the meeting went extremely well; the opportunity to meet and interact with the constituents was wonderful.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Chairman Lowe thanked Cecelia for a wonderful presentation. He also reminded the board of the next board meeting in Louisville on December 14th. Chairman Lowe asked the board to be sure to visit the downtown areas to shop for the holiday season.

Wilma invited the board and staff to attend the grand opening of her gallery, The Speckled Egg, on Main Street the first week in October in Danville.

Jo also extended invitations to the following events: Danny O'Flaherty, the Celtic Balladeer on September 26th at noon, and on October 16th, a Celebration for Arts and Culture, both are on the campus of the Somerset Community College.

Adjournment

1/7/2008